

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

· 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105-3901

June 25, 2004

Certified Mail No.70993400001799226992 Return Receipt Requested

Esterline Technologies 500 108th Avenue NE, Suite 1500 Bellevue, WA 98004

Re: IMPORTANT LEGAL MATTER - Prompt Attention Needed

General Notice Letter to Potentially Responsible Parties Casmalia Disposal Site, Santa Barbara County, CA

Dear Sir or Madam:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA" or "Agency") is spending funds to protect human health and the environment at the Casmalia Disposal Site, formerly known as the Casmalia Resources Hazardous Waste Management Facility ("Site"), in Santa Barbara County, California. The U.S. EPA is sending this information to you because **Esterline Technologies** (hereinafter referred to as your company or organization) was named as a waste generator on one or more manifests for hazardous wastes sent to the Casmalia Disposal Site. This letter is intended to notify your company or organization of its potential liability under Superfund and RCRA for the costs of response actions at the Casmalia Disposal Site.

Superfund is a federal program administered by the U.S. EPA. The Superfund program is designed to clean up hazardous substances that may pose a threat to human health or the environment. The full name of the Superfund law is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or "CERCLA".

RCRA stands for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which is the federal law that provides for the management of solid and hazardous wastes. Under RCRA, parties are responsible for hazardous waste they generate "from cradle to grave" - that is, from the time the waste is first created until it is ultimately disposed of in accordance with the relevant laws.

Under CERCLA and RCRA, the U.S. EPA has the authority to take actions at the Casmalia Disposal Site to protect human health and the environment. The Agency also may require parties that contributed waste to take response actions at the Site to protect human health and the environment. In addition, the U.S. EPA has the authority to enter into settlements requiring parties to pay response costs in <u>lieu</u> of performing the work themselves.